

# NEWS RELEASE



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## **FEDERAL JURY CONVICTS MAN OF POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

*Deridder man possessed hundreds of  
Images of hard-core child pornography*

LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA . . . A one-day federal trial on Monday before United States District Judge Richard T. Haik ended when the jury returned a guilty verdict after deliberating for only ten minutes, announced United States Attorney Donald W. Washington. **JEFFREY JOHNSON**, age 37, from Deridder, Louisiana, was found guilty of possession of child pornography.

During trial, a bail bondsman testified that on May 25, 2005, the defendant gave him a computer as payment of a debt. The bail bondsman's wife found hard core child pornography while using the computer and contacted the Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Office. As a result, the Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Office executed a search of the defendant's home and found a computer and compact discs which contained hundreds of images of hard core child pornography. They also found printed images of hard core child

pornography located in a black binder under the defendant's bed.

JOHNSON claimed that he stumbled on the child pornography when looking for adult pornography, and that he never intended to possess it. However, evidence presented at trial, which included the number of images and movies found as well as the graphic names associated with both the images and the movies that the defendant had downloaded from the internet, contradicted the defendant's defense.

This case was prosecuted under the Project Safe Childhood Initiative announced by the United States Department of Justice in February 2006. The initiative is designed to protect our children from child predators. Under this initiative, federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies join together to investigate and prosecute crimes against children facilitated through the Internet or other electronic media and communications devices and to obtain the strictest penalties available under state or federal law.

Sentencing will be scheduled for a later date to be determined by the court. JOHNSON faces a maximum of ten years federal imprisonment, a fine of not more than \$250,000, and a life term of supervised release.

Sentencing in federal court is determined by the discretion of federal judges and the governing statute. Parole has been abolished in the federal system.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney John Luke Walker.

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